



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

GUIDANCE ON SUBMITTING NEW APPLICATIONS TO TDA

As of September 1, 2015, the time necessary to complete the submission of a **NEW** application for Organic certification; i.e. initial receipt of fee payment and documentation until the issuance of a completed organic certificate, is approximately 90-120 days. Please note that the timeframe of the certification process is directly impacted by the quality of the documentation received by TDA. *TDA strongly encourages operations to submit fee payment and required documentation well in advance of actually needing certification.*

- a. Crop producers need to submit fee payment and documentation at least 3 months before the harvest of first organic crop.
- b. Livestock producers for dairy operations need to submit fee payment and documentation no later than the 8th month of herd transition.
- c. Livestock producers for slaughter operations and livestock product (eggs, fiber) need to contact TDA to decide the correct application submission schedule for the operation.
- d. Handlers of organic product need to submit fee payment and documentation at least 3 months prior to product launch, providing organic processing or handling services (cotton ginning, grain milling, repacking, and distribution).

Last revised: 9/01/2015